Assistance to Madhya Pradesh under foodgrains production programme

1058. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Madhya Pradesh had called a meeting during the month of September 1988 to chalk out a programme for foodgrains production plan in the State;

(b) if so, what were the main features and decisions taken by the State Government to meet the foodgrains production plan; and

(c) whether any Central help has been sanctioned for the food production plan and if so, the amount provided to the State Government so far and to what extent the foodgrains production programme has been working well in the State, and what are the targets and the achievements made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b) The National Rabi Conference was organised on 29th and 30th September 1988 by the Ministry of Agriculture, which, among other State Governments, was also participated by Madhya Pradesh. In this Conference, the strategy to achieve the targets of foodgrains production was discussed. The decisions taken in the Meeting includes the timely and adequate supply of inputs like fertilizer, seed and irrigation water; increased and efficient use of inputs through the adoption of improved crop production technology; and the effective implementation and monitoring of the ongoing foodgrains production programmes. As a sequel to this Conference, detailed planning exercises have been done by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh at District and Block levels.

(c) For the implementation of the various foodgrains oriented programmes with a view to achieve the foodgrains production target of 16.39 million tonnes, an outlay of Rs. 2176.44 lakh has been provided to the State of Madhya Pradesh for 1988-89. A good Kharif harvest is anticipated, however, it is too early to indicate the achievement at this stage.

Trimming of Indian Iron and Steel Co.

1059. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that SAIL has decided on trimming of IISCO (Indian Iron and Steel Co.) Units;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether steel production is likely to suffer as a result of trimming of IISCO Units?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) and (b) In view of the heavy cash losses due to continued operation of obsolete and uneconomic units such as bessemer converters, IISCO are contemplating phasing out uneconomic units to reduce the cash losses.

(c) As a consequence of implementation of the scheme, ingot steel production will be reduced to 32,000 tonnes/month against the existing average level of around 52,000 tonnes/month.

Flow of work force from India to Gulf countries

1060. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether measures are being taken to regulate the flow of work force from India to Gulf countries and per their requirements in view of the cessation of hostilities between Iran and Iraq;

(b) whether the measures are also being taken to ensure suitable working conditions and adequate payments to the work force which is sent to Gulf countries;

(c) whether India is facing a stiff competition now from other Asian countries in the matter of providing manpower to Gulf countries; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken to meet that competition?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) and (b) Export of man-power from India to Gulf Countries including Iran and Iraq is being regulated under the provisions of the Emigration Act, 1983. Suitable working conditions and other terms and conditions are ensured through the employment agreements entered into between the workers and the employers which are attested by the Indian Missions abroad and authenticated by the Protector of Emigrants.

(c) and (d) India is facing competition from other Asian Labour exporting countries. We are reviewing wages rates from time to time, and giving adequate publicity about the vast availability of technically trained manpower in India so that we remain competitive.

Comprehensive legislative measure for industrial relations

1061. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are working on a comprehensive legislative measure in respect of industrial relations; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and by when it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) and (b) A Bill, namely, the Trade Unions and the Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 1988 to amend the Trade Unions Act, 1926 and the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on the 13th May, 1988 and is awaiting consideration

Setting up of Relay Station at Kavali

1062. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to to state :

(a) by when the television relay centre is likely to start functioning at Kavali in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the likely capacity thereof and the areas in kilometres likely to be covered thereby ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b). There is, at present, no scheme under the Seventh Plan to set up a TV transmitter at Kavali in Andhra Pradesh.

Export of Films

1063. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indian films exported and foreign exchange earned thereof during the last three years, language-wise; and country-wise:

(b) whether it is a fact that the export has decreased; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to promote the export of films ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H K. L. BHAGAT): (a) The number of Indian films exported by the National Film Development Corporation languauge-wise and the foreign exchange earned thereform during the last three years as also a statement indicating the country-wise export of Indian films is appended as Annexure. [*See* Appendix 148, Annexure No. 47]. Both these statements indicate, in addition, earnings from Video rights of films. The number of films exported shown in the country-wise statement is more than the number indicated in the language-wise statement. This is due to the fact that the latter statement is based on film titles while the former on film prints. In other words, when prints of a single film are exported to different countries, the number of films thus exported gets added while the number of titles remains the same.